

To: Ferrell, Mark[Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov]
Cc: Rogers, Rod[Rod.Rogers@mail.house.gov]; Deeley, Blake[Blake.Deeley@mail.house.gov]
From: Hamilton, Mike
Sent: Fri 5/20/2016 2:18:41 PM
Subject: RE: Updated health advisories - PFOA and PFOS - drinking water

Mark –

As you are likely aware, this new standard impacts several communities, including Vienna, WV where they have issued a “do not drink” order.

My question is two part:

1. How many water systems across the country do you estimate are above the .07 ppb standard?
2. For communities like Vienna what resources – financial and otherwise – are available from EPA to help them address this immediately? They are a small community and they don't have a lot of resources to fix the problem (for a filtration system, etc).

Please let me know as soon as possible.

Thanks,

Mike

From: Ferrell, Mark [mailto:Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2016 2:10 PM
Subject: Updated health advisories - PFOA and PFOS - drinking water

Today, based on the latest science, EPA released drinking water health advisories to provide the most up-to-date information on the health risks of PFOA and PFOS. These advisories will help local water systems and state, tribal and local officials take the appropriate steps to

address PFOA and PFOS if needed. EPA's assessment indicates that drinking water with individual or combined concentrations of PFOA and PFOS below 70 parts per trillion is not expected to result in adverse health effects over a lifetime of exposure. These levels reflect a margin of protection, including for the most sensitive populations.

If these chemicals are found in drinking water systems above these levels, system operators should quickly conduct additional sampling to assess the level, scope, and source of contamination. They should also promptly notify consumers and consult with their state drinking water agency to discuss appropriate next steps. Public notification is especially important for pregnant or nursing women because of the impact these chemicals can have on the development of fetuses and breastfed or formula-fed infants. There are a number of options available to water systems to lower concentrations of these chemicals in the drinking water supply.

For most people, their source of exposure to PFOA and PFOS has come through food and consumer products. But drinking water can be an additional source of exposure in the small percentage of communities where these chemicals have contaminated water supplies. This is typically a localized issue associated with a specific facility – for example, in communities where a manufacturing plant or airfield made or used these chemicals.

More information:

EPA's Drinking Water Website: [epa.gov/safewater](https://www.epa.gov/safewater)

PFOA and PFOS health advisories: [epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/drinking-water-health-advisories-pfoa-and-pfos](https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/drinking-water-health-advisories-pfoa-and-pfos)

“Science Guides Public Health Protection for Drinking Water” blog: blog.epa.gov

<https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/drinking-water-health-advisories-pfoa-and-pfos>

<https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2016/05/protection-for-drinking-water/>

Regards,

Mark

Mark Ferrell

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